

Wednesday March 4th 1846

God be with you-- guard & guide you all, my own dear Marianne-- What can I say to you that you do not know how we have thot of you-- felt for you-- hoped for you--prayed for you the livelong day-- Marianne--how is this event to affect you-- who owns-()- owned the Phalanstery-- Was it insured? How did it happen? We have all day been tortured by suspense-- As I went to history class "fire--fire--fire" an invisible spirit whispered & it seemdd to suffocate me-- A few minutes after I went in an editor came to the door to enquire "if Miss P knew anything of the particulars of the burning of the Phalanstery"-- Do you think I passed much of the morning in Ancient Greece? I was rather stunned and then I was relieved--so often have I seen the flames pouring from those windows--so strongly have I felt that it must be a prey to fire--Have I not said so to you--& it was a relief that it shld have gone before any farther expense was put upon it & before it was inhabited. What wd.I not give to see you--to know how you are feeling & what thinking. It seems to me--to all outward appearance that this must be a death blow to you & yet I cannot feel deeply depressed about it-- I am anxious--but only for the present-- for the immediate effect-- so sure am I that you have placed your hands firmly in the hand of the all loving & all powerful that I can have no fears no doubts as to the ultimate result-

Ere I arose this morning I wrote you a most earnest letter blaming you & exhorting you-- There are many hungering & thirsting for the bread of life wh.you associationists possess. I do not believe I am deceived--these feelings of discontent and utter dissatisfaction is very very strong in the minds of many & the conviction also that a better way must be found & a willingness a desire to walk in the path if found. Among these seekers--these wishers--you wd find many doubtless who cd aid you with money & personally--& at any rate have you a right to keep these people starving if you can by any possibility supply their need without starving yourselves. Now,if you are scattered for awhile here is one field of labor wh. is white for the harvest. But you can not be disbanded-- Supposing the worst that cd.be--shld you separate forever yr.experiment has not been a failure--how much it has taught of the power & beauty of love-relations--that love,truth,justice are not mere abstractions- yr.experience wd.be a valuable legacy to the race--But you have yet a mighty work before you--Courage--firmness--unfaltering faith. The sin against the Holy Ghost the unforgivable sin wd.be a lack of faith--& this I do not believe will be yours. (The girls have just returned from a ball & the hubbub is not very agreeable)

Our good M.H.Channing blessed us with a long call this afternoon. Mary Bullard came in with Fanny's letters & we & Helen had a consoling talk. Poor fellow--he was suffering very deeply. We all were in a like state of ignorance & longing to know-- It did us all much good to see him. He will come to you tomorrow full of hope & encouragement I trust. Helen sends love & says she did not know how deep ~~the~~ ^{her} interest in you was--she has felt completely sick ever since the shock this morning--Her first announcement was from ~~the~~ newspaper wh. father sent up in wh.it was stated that all the buildings were burnt. Of course she knew that cd. not be. Mary of course also feels deeply--

What a terrible beauty there must have been in the sight. I met Fred Cabot & spontaneously asked about the Phalanstery. Ah me! Marianne--Fred is feeling very badly--he feels that human being was never treated quite so badly as he has been by you at B.F. He seems to believe he has acted from the highest & best motives--that he has done all that was right & honorable by you & to feel greatly outraged. Mary B was with me & our talk was pretty animated. He is coming Friday afternoon to make a full statement of all the facts as he sees them. Now dear Marianne if you can & think it worth while please give me yr. side of the case--I believe "all battle is misunderstanding" & I shld like to see into this matter--I suppose I shall go to Roxbury tomorrow to Lucy Goddard's & shall not be in before twelve or one oclock Friday noon. Shall I find a letter then-- But Marianne I do not wish to be unreasonable--I wd. not have a letter to trouble you--& I am well assured you will write as soon as possible.

After speaking of the loss of the Phalanstery Fred said it mt. be an advantage--it gave you a good excuse for failing--wh. you ought to do. He spoke of you as insolvent & judging from his remarks I shld feel you were in a wholly hopeless condition--an every way hopeless--I wd tell you but cannot write what he said--he asserted his right to express his opinion &c &c I feel a great interest in Fred, but I fear the devils rage just now-- oh woman--woman how much have you to answer for.

Dora wrote me Sunday "she hopes you do not forget at B.F. you cd. not if you knew how much she thot of you". Poor child how trying will be this sad intelligence to her with no one sympathising soul to console with-- I shall write her as soon as I know anything myself.

And our friends in Vermont-- Heaven bless them May this trial work in them new faith & hope-- I did not know how strong my hope was how great my faith for you & in you till now-- It seems to me I must grow strong & well at once that I may be able to do some good work for you ere I die--

How great must be your joy that the hopes & prayers of all the good are yrs--all good spirits watch you lovingly--the Almighty hold you in the hollow of His hand--The Lord's name be praised

Anna Q P

How are the people affected? Mr Ripley? Yr mother? John? Cha Dana? My heart goes out in love to you all--

Helen & I have heard Emerson lecture on Napoleon this evening. I felt an interest in Napoleon for the first time--in his forward! forward! in the face of every calamity & his consequent victory--for I thot of you-- Do you suppose a pay party with addresses & music cd. be arranged for Fourier's birthday here--or what think you of a private concert at Chickering's rooms--ask Fanny if she will come & play-- Ah me how easy it is to scheme--& how hard it is to get money--

Thursday morning--No news yet & I wax impatient--Lucy Goddard has just been in--says Mrs. Sloane is feeling very badly is willing to do anything & everything for association--is thoroughly devoted to the cause. Lucy & Mrs. Peabody think that they ought to help their suffering neighbors & townspeople & think they ought to have their Annual May fair for their benefit. Oh! Marianne what wd. I not give just to look at you & then I shld know the whole. How good it wd be to see yr. bright smiling face & to hear you say "not so badly off as you think"--

Dont you pity me I am compelled to go to a party at Hope Parsons-- Friday night--Wd. you?--

Addressed to Marianne Dwight, Brook farm Phalanx, W. Roxbury Mass.

Wednesday - March 4th - 1846 -

God be with you - guard & guide you all, my own dear Marianne - What can I say to you that you do not know how we have thought of you - felt for you - hoped for you - prayed for you - the living day - Marianne - how is this event ^{affair} to you - who owned - (?) owned the Phalanstery - Was it insured? How did it happen? We have all day been tortured by suspense - As I went to his try class - "five - five - five" an invisible spirit whispered & it seemed to suffocate me - A few minutes after I went in an editor came to the door to enquire "if Miss P. knew anything of the particulars of the burning of the Phalanstery" - So you think I passed much of the morning in ancient Greece? I was rather stunned and then I was relieved - so often have I seen the flames pouring from those windows - so strongly have I felt that it must be a prey to fire - ^{have not said to you} & it was a relief that it should have gone out before any further expense was put upon it & before it was inhabited - What wd. I not give to see you - to know how you are feeling - & what thinking - It seems to me to all outward appearance that this must be a death blow to you & yet I cannot feel deeply depressed about it - I am anxious - but only for the present - for the immediate effect - so sure am I that you have placed your hand firmly in the hand of the all-seeing & all-powerful that I can have no fears - no doubts as to the ultimate result -

Ever since this morning I wrote you a most earnest letter - blaming you & exhorting you - There are many hungering & thirsting for the bread of life who associate with you - I do not believe I am deceived - there is a feeling of discontent & utter dissatisfaction is very strong in the mind of many & the conviction also that a better way ^{a desire} must be found & a willingness to walk in the path of freedom - Among these seekers - these "wishers" - you wd. find many doubters who wd. aid you with money & personally - ^{any rate} I have you a right to keep these people starving if you can by any possibility. ~~that~~

~~Not at all~~ - Supply their need without starving ourselves -
Now, if you are scattered for awhile here is one field of labor
wh. is white for the harvest - But you cannot be disbanded -
Supposing the worst that cd. be - still you separate forever - yr. experience
has not been a failure - how much it has taught of the power
& beauty of true relations - that love - truth - justice are not
mere abstractions - yr. experience wd. be a valuable legacy to the
race - But you have yet a mighty work before you - Courage
firmness - Unflinching faith - the sin against the Holy Ghost
the unforgivable sin wd. be a lack of faith - & this I do
not believe will be yours (The girls have just returned from a
ball & the hubbub is not very agreeable.)

Our good Mr. H. Chauncy blessed us with a long call this afternoon
Mary Ballard came in with Harry's letter & we & Helen had a
comforting talk - Poor fellow - He was suffering very deeply -
We all were in a like state of ignorance & longing to know - It
did us all much good to see him - He will come to you tomorrow
full of hope & encouragement I trust - Helen sends love & says
she did not know how deep her interest in you was - she had
felt completely sick ever since the shock this morning - Her
first announcement was from the newspaper wh. Father sent
up - in wh. it was stated that all the buildings were burnt
Of course she knew that cd. not be - & Mary of course also feels deeply -

What a terrible beauty there must have been in the light
I met Fred Cabot & spontaneously asked about the Phalanstery -
Ah me! - Marianne - Fred is feeling very badly - He feels that human
being was never treated quite so badly as he has been by
you at B. F. He seems to believe he has acted from the highest
& best motives - that he has done all that was right &
honorable by you & to feel greatly outraged - Mary B.
was with me & our talk was pretty animated - He is coming
Friday afternoon to make a full statement of all the
facts as he sees them - Now dear Marianne if you
can & think it worth while please give me yr. side of
the case - I believe "all battle is mis understanding" & I shld

How are the people affected? Am Ripley? yr mother? John? -
My heart goes out to you all -

Like to see into this matter - I suppose I shall go to Roxbury
tomorrow to see my Goddard's shall not be in before ^{twelve} one o'clock
Friday noon - Shall I find a letter then - but Maria Anne
I do not wish to be unreasonable - I wd. not leave a letter
to trouble you - & I am well assured you will write as
soon as possible -

After speaking of the loss of the Phalanstery - Fred said
it wd. be an advantage - It gave you a good excuse for
failing - oh - you ought to do - He spoke of you as insolvent
& judging from his remarks I shd feel you were in a wholly
hopeless condition - an every way despoiled - I wd. tell
you but cannot write what he said - he asserted his
right to express his opinion - & so - I feel a great
interest in Fred but I fear the devil's rage just now -
oh woman - woman how much have you to answer for

Sara wrote me Sunday - she hopes you do not forget at
B.F. - you cd. not if you know how much she thinks of you - Poor
child how trying will be this sad intelligence to her
with no one sympathizing soul to console with - I
shall write her as soon as I know anything myself

And our friends in Denmark - Heaven bless them May
this trial work in their new faith I hope -
I did not know strong my hope was how great my faith for
you & in you till now - It seems to me I must grow strong &
well at once that I may be able to do some good
work for you ere I die -

How great must be your joy that the hopes & prayers of
all the good are up - all good spirits watch you
courage - The Almighty hold you in the hollow of
His hand - The Lord's name be praised -
am & M

When I have heard

Emerson lecture

in Napoleon this

evening - I felt an

interest in Napoleon

for the first time -

He has forwarded!

Forward! in the

face of every calamity

of his consequence

victory - for I think

of you -

Do you suppose a pay

master with addressed

a music of, he arranged

for France's birthday

here - or what think

you of a private

concert - Elsie's

round - ask Fanny if

she will give a play

oh! we was ready it is

to scheme - I was

hard it is to get

money -

Friday morning
The news yet to
way impatient -
suey God and his
just been and -
say and, I alone
is feeling very badly
is willing to do any
thing & everything
for association
to the orderly ruled
to the cause -
suey and, seabody
think that they
ought to help their
suffering neighbors
I think people &
think they ought
to have their
Annual May-
fair for their
benefit -
Oh! Marianne what
we, I don't give for
just to look at you
& then dated for me
the whole - And
good! And he is so
upright smiling
face - I hear you
say - not so badly
as you think it
Don't you pity me
I am compelled
to go to a party at
Elizabeth's - I am
Friday night -
And you?

Marianne Dwight

Brook farm Plaidaup

W. Roxbury

Map

m-2
233